## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 12014 211641Z ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 L-03 /034 W

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R 211635Z JUL 77 FM AMEMBASSY BONN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9989

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, GW, US, WB

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: PAN AM IGS CLAIM

REF: A. BONN 9650 B. BONN 11312

- 1. HELD OF FRG FOREIGN OFFICE TRANSPORTATION POLICY UNIT JULY 19 ASKED EMBOFF TO SEEK VIEWS OF DEPARTMENT AND PAN AM ON PAN AM CLAIM FOR DAMAGES SUFFERED BY ITS IGS SERVICES DURING 1975 ATC CONTROLLER SLOW-DOWN IN LIGHT OF JULY 14 DECISION OF FRANKFURT OBERLANDSGERICHT (STATE SUPREME COURT) IN CASE BROUGHT BY CAPITAL INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES. THAT COURT RULED THAT UNDER GERMAN LAWS FOREIGN CARRIER COULD BRING CLAIM ONLY IF COUNTRY OF WHICH THE CARRIER WAS A NATIONAL PROVIDED RECIPROCITY; THAT IS, IN A SIMILAR SITUATION WOULD PERMIT A GERMAN CARRIER TO BRING A CLAIM AGAINST ITS GOVERNMENT. HELD SAID THE FRANKFURT COURT RULED THAT THE US DID NOT PROVIDE THE REQUIRED RECIPROCITY AND SO CAPITOL COULD NOT SUE FOR DAMAGES. THIS DECISION CAN BE APPEALED. BUT HELD OFFERED AS HIS PRIVATE OPINION THAT IT WILL STAND.
- 2. SPECIFICALLY HELD WOULD LIKE USG AND PAN AM VIEWS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 BONN 12014 211641Z

ON QUESTION OF WHETHER US LAW DOES PROVIDE RECIPROCITY, WHETHER OBLIGATION OF FRG TO "FACILITATE" BERLIN TRAFFIC MAKES IGS A SPECIAL CASE IN THIS CONTEXT, AND ANY OTHER REACTION TO THE FRANKFURT DECISION (TEXT OF WHICH WE ARE TRYING TO OBTAIN). AGAIN AS HIS PRIVATE VIEW, HELD SAID HE SAW LITTLE CHANCE THAT FRG WOULD MAKE ADMINISTRATIVE SETTLEMENT OF PAN AM CLAIM IF IT

DID NOT SEEM TO HAVE LEGAL BASIS.

- 3. WE HAVE INFORMED FRANKFURT OFFICE OF PAN AM OF ABOVE.
- 4. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE ON REPLY FOR EMBASSY TO MAKE TO HELD, WOULD BE APPRECIATED. STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

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